

STREET MAINTENANCE BOND



Special Election
April 6, 2021

Rock Creek Road
2016 Street Maintenance Bond Project

When to Vote

Visit oklahoma.gov/elections for details or to find your polling place.

Mail in Ballot:
5pm March 30

Early Voting:
8am to 6pm April 1 and April 2

Election Day:
7am to 7pm April 6

Get More Online

www.NormanOK.gov has additional information as well as answers to other frequently asked questions.

Bond Defined

A bond election is an election in which voters are asked to consider authorizing the City to sell bonds to pay for a specific project. Bonds are paid back over time, much like a home mortgage.

On Tuesday, April 6, 2021, Norman residents will vote on whether to authorize the issuance of \$27 million in bonds to fund the resurfacing, rehabilitation and reconstruction of neighborhood streets in Norman over the next 5 years.

In March 2005, Norman residents approved the first, 5-year Street Maintenance Bond Program. Since then, residents have approved a street maintenance bond every five years to provide continuous maintenance of city streets and sidewalks. By continuing the previous maintenance bond programs, **voters will not see an increase in property tax levels as a result of this program.**

The City of Norman maintains approximately 800 miles of streets throughout Norman, consisting of 66% urban streets, 30% rural roads and 4% other streets including highways. The City's Street Maintenance Program seeks to rehabilitate streets when they are in fair condition, because the repair costs are significantly less than the cost of total reconstruction of the street. Each year, the City and Infrastructure Management System, Inc., a national expert, evaluate the condition of Norman's streets. That objective information is used to determine which streets are best suited for major maintenance, as well as the type of maintenance most needed in order to extend the life of each street.

The proposed 2021-2026 Street Maintenance Bond Program designates precisely which streets will be improved over the next five years. The program is divided into four categories: (1) Urban Asphalt Rehabilitation, (2) Urban Concrete Rehabilitation, (3) Rural Road Rehabilitation and (4) Urban Street Reconstruction. Of the proposed \$27 million in bond funds over five years, \$20.8 million is allocated to the urban asphalt, urban concrete and rural road rehabilitation projects. Of the remaining funds, \$4.2 million will go to total reconstruction of the worst streets in Norman and \$2 million will go towards preventive maintenance for the most at risk roads.



Lahoma Street Before
2016 Street Maintenance Bond



Lahoma Street After
2016 Street Maintenance Bond



Industrial Boulevard Before
2016 Street Maintenance Bond



Daws Street Before
2016 Street Maintenance Bond



Daws Street After
2016 Street Maintenance Bond



Industrial Boulevard After
2016 Street Maintenance Bond

**More than
400 miles
Repaired**

Since the first Street Maintenance Bond program was approved in 2005 more than 400 miles of road across urban and rural Norman have been repaired.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the total amount of this bond program?

The total amount of this bond program is **\$27 million**.

Where are the bond projects located?

The bond projects are located throughout Norman (see map on next page). The vast majority of the **projects are targeted in residential neighborhoods** as identified in a previous citizen satisfaction survey. Go to www.normanok.gov for additional details.

When will the projects begin?

If approved by voters, **work will begin on the first projects in summer 2021** with the full list of street maintenance bond projects being completed in 2026.

Is there a schedule of when specific streets will be repaired?

Yes. The City has developed a five year schedule of projects throughout all parts of Norman. Maps and lists are available on the City's website at www.NormanOk.gov.

How do I know which streets will be repaired?

By law, the City must provide the improvements at the **specific locations identified in the bond ordinance** and voted on by the citizens. You can view the ordinance with the listed projects at www.NormanOK.gov.

How do Norman property taxes relate to other cities in the region?

Norman's property tax rate is **ranked third lowest** of twelve regional peer cities.

Annual City Property Tax	
Edmond	\$0
Stillwater	\$19.03
Norman	\$93.39
Midwest City	\$97.60
Lawton	\$98.81
Oklahoma City	\$152.30
Broken Arrow	\$161.90
Bartlesville	\$165.66
Moore	\$170.39
Tulsa	\$177.80
Kansas City, Mo.	\$333.05
Austin, Tx.	\$426.80
Dallas, Tx.	\$621.04

*Based on a home with a \$100,000 market value

Do the bond projects include costs for inflation?

Yes, the project budgets include the anticipated cost for inflation over the proposed five-year program.

How will this effect my property tax rate?

If approved, there will be **no increase to your tax rate**. The proposed street maintenance program is basically a continuation of the five-year street resurfacing bond program that was approved by the voters in 2005 and re-authorized in 2010 and 2016. Currently, the owner of a home with a market value of about \$100,000 is paying approximately \$5.75 per month in property taxes to repay these existing bonds (an average mill levy rate of 6.31 mills). If the 2021 proposal is approved by voters, the estimated tax level will not increase as a result of the five-year bond proposal.

Can the City repair residential streets without this bond election?

Funding from the previous Street Maintenance Bond programs has made up approximately 50 to 60% of the City's street maintenance funds. The City also has other funding sources that are used to improve and maintain urban and rural roads. The annual Capital Improvements Program and the annual operating budget for the City Public Works/Streets Division allocate funds for the maintenance of city streets, as well. However, **these other funding sources are not enough to maintain Norman's network of 800 miles of streets.**

How can this program be larger than the last one and not raise taxes?

Because the overall value of property in Norman has increased in the last five years (and is projected to continue to increase while the 2021 bonds are outstanding), more projects can be funded while the per valuation tax assessment remains unchanged. When compared to the 2016 street resurfacing program, this street resurfacing program is larger, but **the cost assessment to each individual's property tax should remain the same.**

Do the City and Cleveland County work together on street maintenance?

The City and Cleveland County work together on the maintenance and rehabilitation of rural city streets in Norman through an interlocal agreement approved annually. In addition to routine maintenance, **the proposed bond program will be able to rehabilitate twice as many rural roads in east Norman** with the use of city and county labor and equipment than otherwise could be accomplished with contract services.

Visit NormanOK.gov for more FAQs.

Proposed Street Improvements

The proposed roadway improvements in the 2021 Bond election were developed using the city's Pavement Management Program which uses technical information to rate and rank streets based upon their condition.

Some highlights of the proposed \$27 million street maintenance projects are:

- \$4.2 million will be used for roadway reconstruction
- \$2 million will be used for preventive maintenance
- \$20.8 million will be used for rehabilitation/maintenance
 - 25% or \$5.2 million for asphalt streets
 - 59% or \$12.2 million for concrete streets
 - 15% or \$3.1 million for rural roads
- Bicycle safety modifications where applicable
- Minor storm drainage improvements
- Accessibility for the disabled will be prioritized
- Streets located throughout Norman
- Collaboration with Cleveland County on rural roads

A typical street maintenance/rehabilitation project in a neighborhood might require 30 days for completion. Residents will be notified well in advance. Access to properties is maintained throughout the projects.



150 Miles Improved

If approved, the 2021 Street Maintenance Bond would improve more than 150 miles of roadway across urban and rural Norman.



Roadway Rehabilitation

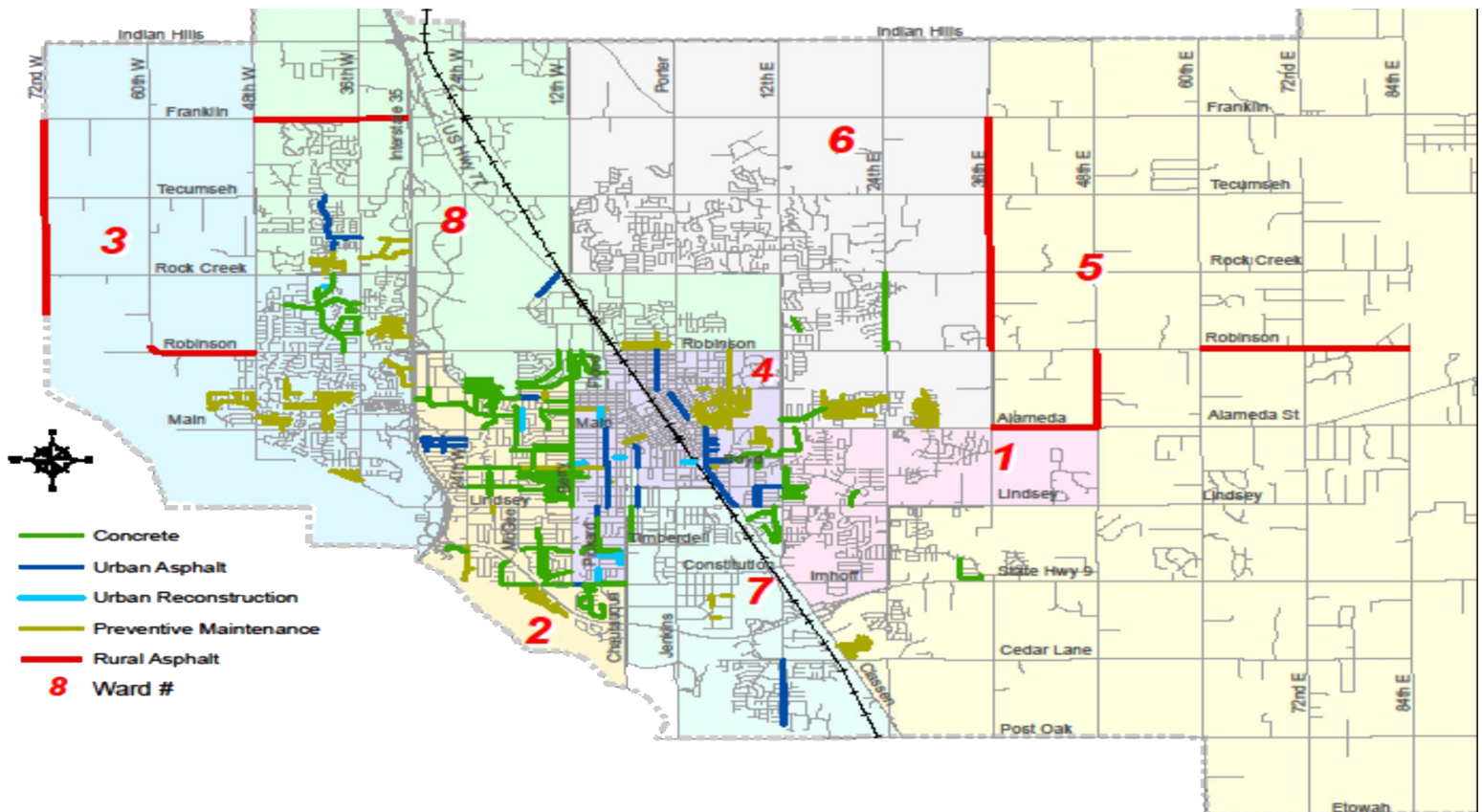
Preventive maintenance and rehabilitation can extend the life of a street in a cost effective manner.



History of Success

Each of the three previous Street Maintenance Bond programs were completed on time and under budget to rehab more than 400 miles of Norman streets

2021 - 2026 Street Maintenance Bond Projects






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Street Maintenance Bond Special Election April 6, 2021

Ballot Question

Below is the proposition as it will appear on your ballot. The ballot language is, by nature, a short summary of the ordinance you will be voting on. The ordinance, which you can view at www.NormanOk.gov, contains a list of all of the projects proposed for the 2021 Street Maintenance Bond. If approved, the City is obligated to complete all projects in the ordinance.

Shall the City of Norman, State of Oklahoma, incur an indebtedness by issuing its bonds in the sum of Twenty-Seven Million Dollars (\$27,000,000) to provide funds for the purpose of reconstructing, repairing, improving, and rehabilitating existing streets, roads, and intersections in the City of Norman, Oklahoma (including lighting, sidewalks/bikepaths, landscaping, related drainage improvements, driveway reconstruction, and other related improvements); and levy and collect an annual tax, in addition to all other taxes, upon all the taxable property in said City sufficient to pay the interest on said bonds as it falls due, and also to constitute a sinking fund for the payment of the principal thereof when due, said bonds to bear interest at not to exceed the rate of ten percentum (10%) per annum, payable semiannually and to become due serially within five (5) years from their date?

☐ Yes - For the proposition.

☐ No - Against the proposition.